

Press Release

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Attorney General Darrell McGraw and the Citizen Advisory Committee Attend Second Meeting

Charleston – Attorney General Darrell McGraw welcomed members of the Citizen Advisory Committee to their second meeting. Attorney General McGraw thanked the committee for their service to the state of West Virginia through strengthening and expanding consumer protection.

"The Citizen Advisory Committee has become part of an important outreach effort that is building better communication between the Attorney General's office and local communities. We are pursuing opportunities to educate consumers enabling them to make smarter choices and reduce unnecessary litigation. The committee is helping the office of the Attorney General put a plan into action that ultimately links communities together shutting down scam operators before their powerful tentacles reach into the pockets of consumers," said McGraw.

Jill Miles, Deputy of Attorney General Darrell McGraw's Consumer Protection Division, and President of the National Association of Consumer Agency Administrators for 2006-2008, spoke with the committee members about the recently effective legislation, Security Freeze and how it affects consumers. "Security Freeze can help stop some of the unwanted inquiries on consumer credit," said Miles. Angela Vance, Associate Director of AARP also joined Miles in talking to the committee about the possibility of upcoming legislation that will further protect consumers beyond the Security Freeze legislation.

Frances Hughes, Chief Deputy Attorney General, updated the committee on the progress of projects that stem from their partnership with the office of the Attorney General and concluded the meeting with closing remarks. "Since our last meeting based on recommendations from the committee we have begun two new programs, educating incoming freshman at West Virginia University on credit, which will expand this fall to other colleges and universities around the state and we have been able to inform more communities about new scams and schemes that defraud," Hughes stated.

"The Citizen Advisory Committee members are responsible for the success that this partnership has had in becoming people's direct line of communication to the Attorney General's office and we all owe them our thanks," stated McGraw.

To contact the Consumer Advocate or Citizen Advisory member in your community contact Amy Saunders, Consumer Coordinator for the office of the West Virginia Attorney General, at 304-558-2021.